existing apron is also being expanded to accommodate more aircraft at a cost of Rs. 11.81 crores.

AAI has plans to construct a new Technical Block cum Control Tower at a cost of Rs. 5.44 crores.

AAI has also plans to develop a new car park area and beautification of city side of Lucknow Airport.

**Serving of Eatables to air passengers**

†2074. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that responsibility to sell eatables at airports and serving of eatables to air passengers has been entrusted to private sector;

(b) if so, what are the details of the private sector firms together with the responsibilities as well as the places for which the work has been entrusted;

(c) whether rate of dividend is also fixed for private sector while entering into an agreement for imparting responsibility; and

(d) if so, the details of the rate and system adopted to monitor the said rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Firms which have been granted licences for providing catering services at major airports are as under:—

(i) At Delhi Airport, ITC Maurya Sheraton for Terminals IA, IB and IC and Taj Hotels, ITC Maurya Sheraton and ITDC for Terminal-II;

(ii) At Mumbai Airport, Oberoi Hotels for Terminal IA, IB and IIA and Kumaria Presidency and Manjeet Brothers for Terminal IIC;

(iii) At Kolkata Airport, Oberoi Hotels for the Domestic Terminal and ITDC and Oberoi Hotels for International Terminal;

(iv) At Chennai Airport, Taj Hotels for Domestic Terminal and Oberoi Hotels for International Terminal;

(v) At Trivandrum Airport, Muthoot Plaza Hotels for both Domestic and International Terminals; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(vi) Pradeep Hotels for Lucknow and Varanasi Airports, Canara Cafetaria for Calicut and Coimbatore Airports, Bharat Hotels for Bangalore Airport, Oberoi Hotels for Chandigarh Airport and Taj Hotels for Jaipur Airport.

(c) and (d) Licences to firms are granted through call of tenders on the basis of their highest bid. The licensees are required to pay the amount of licence fee in advance on or before 10th day of each calendar month. Airports Authority of India receives sufficient security deposits in the form of bank guarantees/FDRs, and in case of default, the bank guarantees/FDRs are encashed.

**Leasing of aerodromes**

†2075. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Malaysia have requested the Indian counterpart to lease out the Chennai aerodrome;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether Government are going to take some strategic decision to lease out Indian aerodromes; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) It has been decided in principle to restructure the airports of Airports Authority of India as and when found suitable through long term lease. At present, the airports located at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata have been taken up for this exercise. The process of selection of lessees would be undertaken through global competitive bidding.

(d) The key reasons for restructuring the airports through long term lease are to improve the standard of services and facilities at International airports; to facilitate infusion of private sector investments as also foreign direct investment in the airport sector; and to improve managerial efficiency.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.